GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1431
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2001
PILOT EPISODES OF TV SERIALS
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Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the existing rule for submitting pilot episodes of TV serials with the Directorate General of Doordarshan;

(b) the total number of pilot episodes of TV serials submitted by the TV serialproducers to the Directorate General of Doordarshan during each of the last three years and the current year so far;

(c) whether certain TV serial producers have some times submitted the pilot episodes after the prescribed time limit;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(e) if so, the decision taken by the Government on such episodes?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SMT. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

(a): Prasar Bharati has intimated that as per the guidelines, the proposals ofsponsored programmes in the first instance are approved in principle subject to providing of pilot of the episodes within a period of 3 months for placing before the Selection Committee of Doordarshan for final decision/approval, failing which the approval granted to the proposal lapses automatically.

(b): Total number of pilot episodes of TV serials submitted by the producers during each of the last three years and the current year, is given as under:-

1998	-	196
1999	-	375
2000	-	173
Current year	-	13

(c) (d) & (e): Yes, Sir. Prasar Bharati have intimated that out of 11 serials for which the pilot episodes were submitted after the prescribed time limit by the producers, only 1 serial based on the novel of Shri Sharat Chandra which highlights the moralvalues of modern society was found suitable for telecast after preview by Doordarshan.